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REPRESENTATIVES
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 4 August 1995 from t' ermanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a declaration dated 3 August 1995 adopted at the Conference for Human Rights and Humanitarian Issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 2 August 1995.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 114 (c) and 28 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Istanbul declaration for human rights and humanitarian issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina, issued on 3 August 1995

1. A conference was held in Istanbul on 2 August 1995 hosted by the Turkish Ministry of State for Human Rights, with the participation of representatives from Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the European Union and, as observers, the Russian Federation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to review the ongoing human tragedy in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to find ways and means to provide and deliver assistance and to redress the situation in this war-torn country.

2. During the Conference, deep concern was voiced over the recent brutal attacks carried out by Bosnian Serbs against United Nations-declared safe areas, special emphasis being given to the massacre of civilians and the continued policy of ethnic cleansing and atrocities committed against the civilian population.

3. An urgent appeal was made to the international community to take the necessary measures in order to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian aid to the needy and to keep all access routes open. To this end, special emphasis was placed on the need for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to ensure unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid.

4. The participants agreed upon the necessity to initiate projects for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Bosnia. They urged the international community to be forthcoming and generous with their assistance.

5. During the Conference, serious concern was expressed for the violations of humanitarian law and human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A call was made to all countries to contribute more rapidly and effectively to the work of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, established for the purpose of bringing to justice those who have committed war crimes, crimes against humanity and acts of genocide.